FY 2023/2024

Child Care Resource Center™
Quality · Support · Development · Education

Head Start

Investing in the Future Success of Families

98% of families reported the Head Start program was good or very good.

Head Start supports low income children from birth to age 5 through early learning, development, health, and other services to help prepare them to excel in the school system and in life. Parents are also actively engaged in the program leading to strong child outcomes and improved financial stability.

Positive Classroom Environment

Head Start programs foster parent and child growth.

99% Child's learning environment is a supportive and welcoming place for the child to learn

98% Child's learning environment treats child with respect

"My child has been able to interact with other children. He has learned many things like shapes, colors, numbers, etc."

"My child learns new skills on a daily basis, engages, and learns how to interact and share with other kids."

Empowering Parents to Help Children Succeed

These programs build the capacity of parents to help their children succeed.

99% Felt prepared to help my child succeed

98% Felt prepared to interact with my child's future teacher/provider

96% Have the necessary resources to parent my child

"My child's speech/vocabulary has improved as well as his social interaction with others."

Economic Stability and Advancement

Participation in these programs facilitated parent's economic stability and advancement by allowing them to participate in employment and education.

- **93%** Keep a job
- **91%** Accept a job
- **84%** Attend education or training
- **81%** Accept a better job
- **70%** Work overtime or more hours

Research shows a **13% return-on-investment** for high quality, comprehensive birth to age 5 programs.[1]

[1]https://heckmanequationstaging.mystagingwebsite.com/

Key Results for Families: Health, Nutrition, and Early Intervention

90% of children are up-to-date with **immunizations**

96% of children have access to a **medical home**

96% of children have access to a **dental home**

Over **4,000 nutritious breakfasts, lunches and snacks** are served each day to children.

All children receive health and developmental screenings. Of those screened, **over 300** recieve **early intervention services before kindergarten,** typically in the areas of Speech and Language Impairment, Developmental Delay, or Autism.

" I am now able to go to work and know that my daughter is in good hands. As a first-time parent the program has made the transition for our family a lot easier and less stressful. It has also been enjoyable to see how happy and excited my daughter is to go to school every day."

Call to Action

The positive results described above are impossible to achieve without adequate funding. Head Start is a placed-based system of care where children and families receive community supportive services and experience well-being. This whole child and family approach is provided in a trusted environment that sets a trajectory for lifetime outcomes. Additionally, Head Start employs over 230,000 direct service jobs across the nation as well as tens of thousands of support positions. Finally, 86% of rural communities have a Head Start program that is at times the only care option in that community.[2] These jobs support families and communities. Fully funding Head Start ensures parents and children thrive and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs, and therefore the nation's economy.

[2] https://www.instituteforchildsuccess.org/rural-communities-head-start-plays-critical-role/